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The Evans & Reeves

Grapevine

Los Angeles, Calif.

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NO. 2

IT'S TIME FOR —

This is the happy month when the gardener who has planted wisely can sit back and relax a bit. His chief concern should be to see that his plantings do not suffer from lack of water or food. Roses are gross feeders; see that they do not lack fertilizer! Minor pleasant putting jobs there will be—pinching back Chrysanthemums, tying up Carnations, and of course, maintaining guard against plant pests.

June brings weddings and patio parties. Often, in spite of planning, we find ourselves caught short on color, but fortunately our nurseries anticipate this and are ready with material for just such occasions! Many plants in pots or containers, in flower or about to burst into bloom, are on hand. Employing shades of red, orange and yellow MESEMBRYANTHEMUMS in rainbow crescents will produce a spectacular show. (One gallon, 65 cents). PELARGONIUMS are good not only for that special party, but in a sunny spot provide a wealth of color for months to come this year, and future years; available in a wide range of colors at 85 cents in 4 inch pots. FUCHSIAS, other long-flowering plants, are coming into their own now. The newest introductions as well as all the outstanding old favorites have turned our lathhouses into

(Continued on inside page)

By the Sea . . .

Almost everybody loves to be by the beautiful sea . . . and most of our plant friends hate it! And that poses a problem because the same salty breezes which so invigorates us, have the same effect as a blow torch on such things as Magnolias, Elms, Camellias, etc. So this is written for the benefit of our garden-loving friends who inhabit the seashore from Malibu to Portuguese Bend.

Forget Coconut Palms; it is from the coasts of Australia, New Zealand, the Canary Islands and the Mediterranean that

(Continued on inside page)

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HORTICULTURAL HEGIRA

Look Again!

Any drive anywhere in Southern California can be a garden tour—especially if the tourist isn't the driver. The only requirement for fun is an interest in plants and an acquaintance with a few of them. Recently we were driven into Hollywood—and were amazed at some of the landmarks.

On the left-hand side of Sunset boulevard, near Holmby Hills where the street follows sort of an arroyo and the plantings of the houses come right down to the curb to screen out the curious eye, we saw large dark clumps of shrub with masses of yellow bloom—Acacia verticillata, a late bloomer, handsome, and growing on a very dry bank which the roots had kept immobile even with last winter's rains. Beyond on the right was a fine colony of Prunus Pissardi (Purple-leaf Plum) effectively faced with bold gray-green mounds of Melianthus major, a dramatic combination. Then came a stretch of smallish, round-headed Eucalyptus Lehmanni — dense on top but with strong fine branch pattern and lots of red and bronze in the foliage even in early summer.

At Whittier drive we had to stop—and so noticed on the right an interesting street planting there of Casuarina, a needle-leaved gray green tree impervious to wind, drought and carbon monoxide fumes. On either side of Sunset for a mile or two through Beverly Hills is a street tree that takes one right back to any middle-western town, Acer dasycarpum, the Silver Maple.

The park opposite the Beverly Hills Hotel offers an excellent assortment of palms, nothing rare, but all mature enough to show their better values — Arecastrums, Washingtonias, Butias, Erytheas, and Chamaerops humilis.

In one spacious old-fashioned front lawn on the left stands a not too happy but very old Agathis robusta, the Queensland Kauri, also known as Dammar Pine, though

(Continued on inside page)

IT'S TIME FOR —

(Continued from front page)

a fairyland of tinted bells. Our hanging basket Fuchsias this season promise to be the best ever; don't miss them, they move out as fast as they come into bloom! (One gallon, \$1.) That faithful harbinger of summer—the PETUNIA—is available in many forms and colors at 40 cents in quart cans. Worthy of mention here is a yellow cushion MUM, now in bloom, which will continue to give wave after wave of color until December. (95 cents, one gallon.)

BOUGAINVILLEA is flowering freely, so now is the time to secure the exact color you have been seeking. We have reds, magentas, orange, pink, and yellow with certain varieties are being offered for the first time. (From \$1.50 in one gallon cans.)

As the markets fill with AVOCADOS, the yearning to "have a tree of our own" is overwhelming! It's not too late to plant, and for coastal planting and year-round supply of fruit, these can be recommended from our excellent stock: Fuerte, Anaheim, Nabal, and Jolna. (\$7.50 per tree.)

Recall our enthusiastic announcement of DAIS COTINIFOLIA? This small African tree is showing its delicate pink flower heads now, and we invite you to see it for yourself. (\$7.50 in five gallon cans.)

Bedding plants for the sun at this time include ASTERS, LARKSPUR, ZINNIAS, bedding DAHLIAS, AFRICAN MARIGOLDS, for height, while for bedding and edging, there are dwarf PHLOX, PETUNIAS, dwarf MARIGOLDS, VERBENA, ALYSSUM, AGERATUM, and LOBELIA. For the shade, TUBEROUS BEGONIAS, pot-grown for quick results, will be in evidence. TORENIA FOURNIERI is a lovely little lavender and yellow flowered subject which should be used more often; if you are not familiar with it, look for it at the nursery—and see why it's called the "wish-bone plant." Other plants for the shade include MIMULUS (monkey flower), the old reliable IMPATIENS SULTANA, and another group of interesting BEGONIAS. Shade planting brings to mind FERNS. A skillfully blended fernery can be a thing of beauty, variety and interest as well as a refreshing place to linger in the hot days ahead. We have a fine collection from ground covers to trees for your selection.

A new rose, CHRYSLER IMPERIAL, is causing much excitement in the trade; if you are a Rose lover, keep a spot open, and watch the next issue of the Grapevine.

BY THE SEA . . .

(Continued from front page)

we draw much of the material that thrives along our own Southern California shoreline.

METROSIDEROS TOMENTOSA, "New Zealand Christmas Tree," so called because of the profusion of scarlet flowers like Christmas ornaments, first appearing here in early summer is a bushy, full-bodied tree that can also be grown as a large shrub. Dotes on salt air. MYOPORUM, "Sandalwood," another New Zealander, is a large shrub or bushy tree with attractive green foliage, white flowers and positive liking for beach atmosphere. Very fast growing. MELALEUCA LEUCADENDRON, "Paper Bark Tree," is a tall, stately, fast-growing tree with bottlebrush flowers of pale yellow and a papery bark that peels off like tapa cloth. Winds won't bother this. Another bottlebrush valuable for seaside hedges is MELALEUCA NESOPHYLLA, bearing flowers of lavender and thriving under adverse conditions.

COPROSMA BAUERI, with shining foliage that looks as if it were varnished, is one of the best bets for a shrub. LEPTOSPERMUM LAVAEGATUM, "Tea Tree," can be grown as a shrub; it can be espaliered, or it can be grown as a small tree to show off its picturesque twisted trunks. Many vivid colored flowers. CISTUS PURPUREUS, "Rock Rose," will give you lots of rose-colored flowers on a medium, spreading bush that requires practically no attention. ATRIPLEX BREWERI, valuable spreading shrub of glistening gray, will grow in almost pure sand.

ACACIA LATIFOLIA, a shrubby tree, also excellent for hedges, has yellow flowers and a reputation for fast growth. EUCALYPTUS ANGULOSA, dwarf type with big bunches of extremely ornamental chartreuse colored blossoms, is also a fast grower. Perennial ECHIUM FASTUOSUM, with its spikes of blue flowers, will thrive on neglect and salt air and is ideal for mass effects.

The need for climbing plants can be filled with SOLANDRA GUTATTA, "Cup of Gold," which thrives under direct exposure to salt spray, and, for less exposed situations, the various BOUGAINVILLEAS will give out lavishly with flaming color. You can even go tropical at the seaside with FATSIA JAPONICA, which will stand beach conditions better than the other large-foliaged material!

FOR A TROPICAL TASTE — PAPAYA



Look Again! . . .

(Continued from front page)

not a pine at all but of that curious family which takes the place of pines in the southern hemisphere, the Araucariaceae. To the left in the same lawn grows an even more unusual tree for this climate — the *Picea pungens glauca* (Colorado Blue Spruce).

Side-tracking into Fountain avenue from "the Strip," one is suddenly pressed in on both sides and overhead by the heavy dark green canopies of a once suburban neighborhood now crowded both by houses and big plants. Long despised because of its pavement-raising propensities, the *Acacia melanoxylon* (Black Acacia) must still be admired for its magnificent black-green rounded head so suggestive of cool shade on glaring summer days, its fissured black-gray trunk, and indescribable all-over texture and form. Along this street, too, grow endless Avocados, Macadamias, an occasional Pecan, and one of the finest *Bauhinia variegata alba* in Greater Los Angeles, the White Orchid tree (at its best in May), with kidney-shaped gray-green leaves and the thousands of flowers not unlike white Cattleyas.

Our tour ended at Hollywood High School, one of the best landscaped school grounds in Southern California, where the prize display is the *Strelitzia Nicolai* clump (Giant Bird of Paradise) near the Sunset entrance. Peering up at cluster upon cluster of boat-shaped navy blue and white flowers between the fans of paddle leaves, one realizes all over again that a spectacle like that is worth planting and waiting for!

For a taste of the tropics, both literally and figuratively, we suggest for the gourmet-gardener, *Carica candamarcensis*, the mountain Papaya, a more hardy relative of the exotic fruit which occasionally graces our markets. Large, elaborately-cut, bright green leaves surmount the stems of this shrubby plant (possibly ten feet high by six across), sheltering beneath them bundles of small acidulous fruits which, while not ideally eaten fresh, can be made into delicious jam, stewed fruit, or, by means of a blender, a beverage adjunct. And you may follow a tip from natives of tropic regions, by wrapping refrigerated meats in the tenderizing leaves prior to cooking. To leave the kitchen for the garden again, this native of Ecuador and Colombia prefers the warmer sections of southern California, where its base-forking stems of handsome foliage and interesting fruits complement home and palate in a truly tropical manner. (\$1 and \$4.50.)

Hugh Evans

I am sure you love to watch those iridescent and living jewels which flash and sweep and dart hither and thither in your garden. You want to attract them, to keep them coming, to induce them to nest and rear their young in your garden; so plant plenty of Fuchsias, particularly in these cool, coastal regions. Set them in rich soil and part shade, keep a good mulch over the ground all around the bushes, offer an occasional shower bath, and you will reap your reward. Positively nothing will give you more color and light and wealth of bloom over so long a period as will these plants. Under artificial lights at night the flowers in all their various shades and colors are especially attractive.

When my family first came to Santa Monica almost forty-five years ago, there were two large bushes of *Fuchsia virgata* in an old garden there. These two bushes are still there, just as happy and healthy as ever. This is the Fuchsia with the small red and purple flowers, very hardy, blooms in full sun. In fact, this Fuchsia and its cousin, *F. Magellanica*, often called *F. gracilis*, actually bloom better in the sun than they do in the shade near the coast. A good plant of the tall growing *F. Magellanica* literally dripping with its graceful little flowers is a vision of delight.

If you like to "see what you're getting," now is the time to select ROSES --- our flowering stock includes:

BUSHES—Christopher Stone, Eclipse, Etoile de Hollande, Mission Bells, Tallyho, Talisman.

FLORIBUNDAS—Vogue, Carrousel, Crimson Rosette, Pinocchio.

CLIMBERS—Belle of Portugal, Mrs. E. P. Thom, Peace, Rose Marie, Talisman, San Fernando.

and TREE ROSES in variety

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